# PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

# **PCT**

# TRANSLATION INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY (Chapter II of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference P3131/PCT W/HLL	FOR FURTHER ACTION	See Form PCT/IPEA/416					
International application No.	International filing date (day/month	h/year) Priority date (day/month/year)					
PCT/EP2005/002926	18.03.2005	22.03.2004					
International Patent Classification (IPC) or nati	onal classification and IPC						
B01D33/76							
Applicant Z-FILTER GMBH + CO. I	KG						
1. This report is the international preliminary examination report, established by this International Preliminary Examining Authority under Article 35 and transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.							
2. This REPORT consists of a total of	6 shee	ets, including this cover sheet.					
3. This report is also accompanied by A	NNEXES, comprising:						
a. (sent to the applicant and	to the International Bureau) a total o	of 9 sheets, as follows:					
	sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications authorized by this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative						
	sheets which supersede earlier sheets, but which this Authority considers contain an amendment that goes beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed, as indicated in item 4 of Box No. I and the Supplemental						
	Rureau anh) a total of (indicate type	e and number of electronic carrier(s))					
(sen to the International)	sureau omy) a total of (findicate type						
_	, containing a sequence listing and/or tables related thereto, in computer readable form only, as indicated in the Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing (see Section 802 of the Administrative Instructions).						
This report contains indications relati	ng to the following items:						
Box No. I Basis of the	report						
Box No. II Priority							
Box No. III Non-establi	shment of opinion with regard to nov	velty, inventive step and industrial applicability					
Box No. IV Lack of unit	y of invention						
BON 110. 1	Box No. V  Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement						
Box No. VI Certain doc	aments cited						
Box No. VII Certain defe	ects in the international application						
Box No. VIII Certain obse	ervations on the international applica	ation					
Date of submission of the demand	Date of comp	pletion of this report					
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/EP	Authorized o	officer					
Facsimile No	Telephone N	Ĩo.					

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Box	No. I	Basis of the report			
1.		h regard to the language, this report is based on the internation cated under this item.	onal application in the language in	which it v	was filed, unless otherwise
		This report is based on translations from the original language which is the language of a translation furnished for the purport international search (Rule 12.3 and 23.1(b))			,
		publication of the international application (Rule 12.4	1)		
	*****	international preliminary examination (Rule 55.2 and	· ·		
2.	rece	h regard to the <b>elements</b> of the international application, this iving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 at report):			
		the international application as originally filed/furnished			
	M	the description:			
		pages <u>5-11</u>		26.01	as originally filed/furnished .2006 with letter
		pages* 1-4,4a	received by this Authority on	of 23	.01.2006
	_	pages*	received by this Authority on		
	$\boxtimes$	the claims:			
		nos.			as originally filed/furnished
		nos.*	as amended (togethe	r with any	y statement) under Article 19 .2006 with letter
		nos.* _ 1-17	received by this Authority on		
		nos.*	received by this Authority on		
	$\boxtimes$	the drawings:			
		sheets _ 1/2,2/2			as originally filed/furnished
		sheets*	received by this Authority on		
		sheets*	received by this Authority on		
		a sequence listing and/or any related table(s) – see Supplement	nental Box Relating to Sequence L	isting.	
3.	Ш	The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:			
		the description, pages			
		the claims, nos.			
		the drawings, sheets/figs			
		the sequence listing (specify):			
		any table(s) related to sequence listing (specify):			
4.		This report has been established as if (some of) the amend they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as fi			
		the description, pages			
		the claims, nos.			
		the drawings, sheets/figs			
		the sequence listing (specify):			
		any table(s) related to sequence listing (specify):			
*	If ite	em 4 applies, some or all of those sheets may be marked "sup	erseded."		

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Box No. II	II Non-establishment of opinion	on with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial ap	plicability
	ons whether the claimed invention a have not been examined in respect of:	ppears to be novel, to involve an inventive step (to be no	on obvious), or to be industrially
Ш	the entire international application		
$\bowtie$	claims Nos. 2, 6, 8, 9–17		
becaus	the said international application, or the	ne said claims Nos. which does not require an international preliminary examinati	ion (specify):
	the description, claims or drawings (in are so unclear that no meaningful opin	ndicate particular elements below) or said claims Nos nion could be formed ( <i>specify</i> ):	
	the claims, or said claims Nos. by the description that no meaningful	opinion could be formed.	are so inadequately supported
$\boxtimes$	no international search report has been	n established for said claims Nos. 2,6,8,9-17	
	the nucleotide and/or amino acid sequ Instructions in that:	nence listing does not comply with the standard provided for	in Annex C of the Administrative
	the written form	has not been furnished does not comply with the standard	
	the computer readable form	has not been furnished does not comply with the standard	
		nd/or amino acid sequence listing, if in computer readable for Annex C-bis of the Administrative Instructions.	orm only, do not comply with the
	See Supplemental Box for further deta	ails.	

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	citations and explai	nations sup	pporting such statement	
1.	Statement			
	Novelty (N)	Claims	1, 3-5, 7	YES
		Claims		NO
	Inventive step (IS)	Claims		YES
		Claims	1, 3-5, 7	NO
	Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	1, 3-5, 7	YES
		Claims		NO

2. Citations and explanations (Rule 70.7)

Reference is made to the following document:

D1: DE 33 21 565 A1 (KLOECKNER-HUMBOLDT-DEUTZ AG, 5000 COLOGNE, DE) 20 December 1984 (1984-12-20)

### 1 - INVENTIVE STEP - PCT ARTICLE 33(3)

The present application does not meet the requirements of PCT Article 33(1), because the subject matter of claims 1, 3-5, 7 does not involve an inventive step under PCT Article 33(3).

1.1 - Claim 1

Document D1 which is considered to be the closest prior art discloses (page 9, figures 1, 2) (the references between parentheses refer to this document) a method for treating, filtering and cleaning a working medium having a filter (1) in a filter housing (4) which adjoins a discharge device for a filter cake. A moveable stamp (15) is assigned to the discharge device and is periodically moved down from the top to the filter cake material (7) which continuously collects in a shaft (10), in order to

Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

distribute and compact it. The shaft (10), at its bottom end, has a discharge orifice to which a plane (19) is assigned as discharge organ for discharging the compacted filter cake material.

The hydraulic cylinder (20) serving to drive the plane is connected to a control device (18) which controls the working speed of the plane (19) as a function of  $\underline{\text{the}}$   $\underline{\text{height}}$  and compression force of the compacting stamp (15).

The filter cake (7) is detached from the filter drum by means of compressed air pulses from the compressed air line (9) (description page 8).

The subject matter of claim 1 **differs** from document D1 **in that** the filter is backwashed at time intervals and that the filter is charged with working medium or another purge medium from the outside during the backwashing process.

The problem addressed by the present invention can therefore be considered that of proposing method steps to clean the filter surface.

The solution proposed in claim 1 of the present application cannot be considered inventive for the following reasons (PCT Article 33(3)):

The above feature "backwashing at time intervals and charging the filter from the outside during the backwashing process with working medium or another purge medium" is only one of several obvious possibilities from which a person skilled in the art would choose according

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to the circumstances in order to solve the problem of interest, without thereby being inventive.

1.2 - Claims 3-5, 7

Claims 3-5, 7 do not contain any features which, in combination with the features of any claim to which they refer, meet the PCT requirements for novelty and inventive step.